

REMARKS

Claims 22-37 are pending. The Office Action dated November 29, 2006, in this Application has been carefully considered. The following remarks are presented in a sincere attempt to place this Application in condition for allowance. Claims 1-21 have been cancelled in this Response, and claims 22-37 have been added. Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 1-4, 6-8, and 10-21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ellison et al. (US 7,082,615) in view of Worley, Jr. et al. (US Patent Publication No. 2002/0194389). In response thereto, Applicant notes claims 1-4, 6-8, and 10-21 have been canceled.

Newly added claims 22-37 include two independent claims 1 and 31. Applicant wishes to note that the combination of Ellison et al. and Worley, Jr. et al. does not teach or disclose the secure processing system as recited in newly added independent claim 22:

22. A secure processing system, comprising:

a main processor unit (MPU) coupled to a processor bus;

an attached processor complex (APC) coupled to the processor bus and comprising:

a local store configured to store computer instructions and data;

an attached processor unit (APU) coupled to the local store;

wherein the APC is configured to receive commands from the MPU via the processor bus, to store a cryptographic master key, and to operate in a non-isolated state and an isolated state; and

wherein in response to a LOAD command received from the MPU, the APC is configured to

transition from the non-isolated state to the isolated state, to partition the local store into a

general access section accessible by the MPU and an isolated section accessible only by the

APU, to transfer a set of computer instructions or data into the isolated section of the local

store, and to use the master key to extract and decrypt a portion of the computer instructions or data stored in the isolated section of the local store, thereby producing another cryptographic key.

Further, Applicant wishes to note that the combination of Ellison et al. and Worley, Jr. et al. does not teach or disclose the method for carrying out secure processing as recited in newly added independent claim 31:

31. A method for carrying out secure processing, comprising:

providing a main processor unit (MPU), a processor bus, and an attached processor complex (APC), wherein the APC comprises a local store configured to store computer instructions and data and an attached processor unit (APU) coupled to the local store;

configuring the MPU to drive a LOAD command on the processor bus in the event secure processing is required;

coupling the MPU to the processor bus;

configuring the APC to receive the LOAD command via the processor bus, to store a cryptographic master key, and to operate in a non-isolated state and an isolated state;

configuring the APC to respond to a received LOAD command by:

transitioning from the non-isolated state to the isolated state;

partitioning the local store into a general access section accessible by the MPU and an isolated section accessible only by the APU;

transferring a set of computer instructions or data into the isolated section of the local store;

using the master key to extract and decrypt a portion of the computer instructions or data stored in the isolated section of the local store, thereby producing another cryptographic key; and

coupling the APC to the processor bus.

Claims 5 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ellison et al. and Worley, Jr. et al. and further in view of Dahan et al. (US Patent Publication No. 2003/0140244). In response thereto, Applicant notes claims 5 and 9 have been canceled.

Applicant wishes to note that the combination of Ellison et al., Worley, Jr. et al., and Dahan et al. does not teach or disclose the secure processing system as recited in newly added independent claim 22 (reproduced above) or the method for carrying out secure processing as recited in newly added independent claim 31 (reproduced above).

In the present response, Applicant addresses all of the claim objections and rejections cited in the Office Action. In view of the amendments to the claims and Applicant's remarks, Applicant believes pending claims 22-37 are in condition for allowance, and respectfully request allowance of pending claims 22-37.

With the amendments to the claims presented herein, there are currently 2 pending independent claims and 16 total pending claims in the application. As the original application had 5 independent claims and 21 total claims, Applicant believes no additional fees are due. In the event that any other fees are due, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any required fees due (other than issue fees), and to credit any overpayment made, in connection with the filing of this paper to Deposit Account No. 09-0447 of IBM Corporation.

The present amendment is believed to contain a complete response to the issues raised in the Office Action. Full reconsideration is respectfully requested. If the Examiner should have any questions, comments or suggestions, the undersigned attorney earnestly requests a telephone conference. In particular, should the Examiner deem that any further amendment is desirable to

place this application in condition for allowance, the Examiner is also invited to telephone the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

CARR LLP

Dated: March 13, 2007
CARR LLP
670 Founders Square
900 Jackson Street
Dallas, Texas 75202
Telephone: (214) 760-3030
Fax: (214) 760-3003

/Gregory W. Carr/
Gregory W. Carr
Reg. No. 31,093